U.S. SERIAL-NO. To Be Assigned (U.S. National Phase of International Application No. PCT/EP99/02102) FILED ON: Herewith EXAMINER: To Be Assigned GROUP ART UNIT: To Be Assigned

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 3, line 1, delete "claim 2" and substitute therefor -- Claim 1--.

Claim 5, line 1, delete "any of claims 1 to 4" and substitute therefor -- Claim 1--.

Claim 6, line 1, delete any one of claims 1 to 5" and substitute therefor -- Claim 1--.

Claim 7, line 1, delete "any of the preceding claims" and substitute therefor -- Claim

1--.

Claim 8, line 1, delete "any one of the preceding claims" and substitute therefor --

Claim 1--.

Claim 10, line 1, delete claim 8 or 9" and substitute therefor -- Claim 8--.

Claim 11, line 1, delete "any of claims 1 to 10" and substitute therefor -- Claim 1--.

Claim 12, line 1, delete "any of claims 1 to 11" and substitute therefor -- Claim 1--.

Claim 13, line 1, delete "any of claims 1 to 12" and substitute therefor -- Claim 1--.

Claim 14, line 1, delete "any of claims 1 to 13" and substitute therefor -- Claim 1--.

Claim 15, line 1, delete "any of claims 1 to 13" and substitute therefor -- Claim 1--.

Claim 16, line 1, delete "any of claims 1 to 15" and substitute therefor -- Claim 1--.

Claim 17, line 20, delete "any of claims 1 to 17" and substitute therefor -- Claim 1--.